

that if President Tyler is—in common with Wise, Gilmour,⁶³ etc these Virginia Whigs in power,—an *impracticable* & under the influence of that clique of politicians; the sooner he stood upon his own bottom, the better. He should take *the responsibility*. And if he proved craven, and shewed the white feather, upon his own head rest the fault—for *my President is dead and I couldn't help it*. But this would not do in practice. If we can't get the best, we will the next best—& if not that, the best we can. Yet it is vexing to see some of your Bank Whigs in the Senate and some of your land-distribution Whigs in the House! What does all this portend?

You can't well imagine how *the party* are chuckling over your divisions. I begin to apprehend that many of our political brotherhood possess but little more merit than our opponents.

Will you write me about these things—all about the political movements among you. For I take it for granted that there are such, & that they are likely to prove ultimately an impediment to the success of those vital principles for which we have been struggling.

We are generally well here—nothing local of any moment. The absorbing subject throughout the land is the critical position apparently of—I can't say with certainty—of the Whig administration, for it is with us growing very doubtful, whether since the death of Gen'l Harrison the Country is to be considered under a Whig Administration, or not. This is the subject upon which the whole thinking Country is seriously, gravely, painfully but silently engaged in the most fearful contemplation.

Say to my Brother that all are well.

Your friend

From Edmund Strudwick.

U.

9th July 1841, Friday,

Hillsboro, N. C.

On Wednesday about 2 o'clock P. M. the 7th inst. the little stranger⁶⁴ for whom you felt much anxiety arrived safely—in the midst of a smart thunder storm. Mrs. Graham is very well—had a

⁶³ Gilmer.

⁶⁴ James Augustus Graham (1841-1909), later a graduate of the university, Confederate captain, lawyer, and state senator, 1870-1872.